

As seen on pinterest



1/6/87

Larson



“Uh-oh, Donny. Sounds like the monster in the basement has heard you crying again. ... Let’s be reeeel quiet and hope he goes away.”

# Grandparent Ministry

## Lesson 5

Developing God-Honoring Relationships with My Grandchildren’s Parents

For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice. Genesis 18:19

- Babette (13) Lilly (10) Virginia (8) Kip (5)

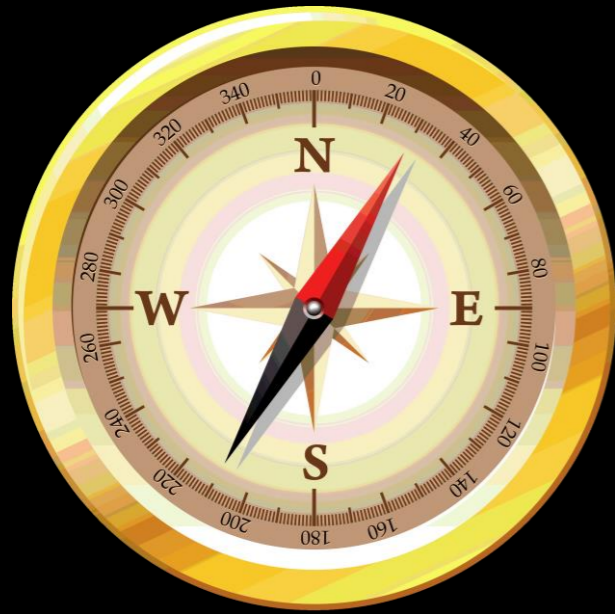
## Introducing



Rick and Judy Bradley

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# Big Idea



- One of the best things you can do for your grandchildren is to **love** their **parents**

^ and respect

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## ■ Dr. Ted Tripp

# Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXrgF3WT-ZE>



# What is God's design for grandparents?

Sadly, many Christian grandparents have not taken an active role in helping disciple their grandchildren in the ways of Christ because “that’s the parent’s responsibility” (p. 25)

- Honoring Biblical Boundaries
  - Respecting Our Kids as God’s Appointed *Primary* Spiritual Mentors of Our Grandchildren
    - Ephesians 6:4
  - Embracing Our Unique Role as Grandparents
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## Past Failures

- Applying the Gospel to Past Failures with our own kids
    - Consider humbly confessing to the Lord your own failures
    - Have a heart-to-heart talk with your kids, honestly confessing your own failures as a parent.
  - Don't apply false blame to yourself
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# Parental Engagement

“Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear”

Ephesians 4:29

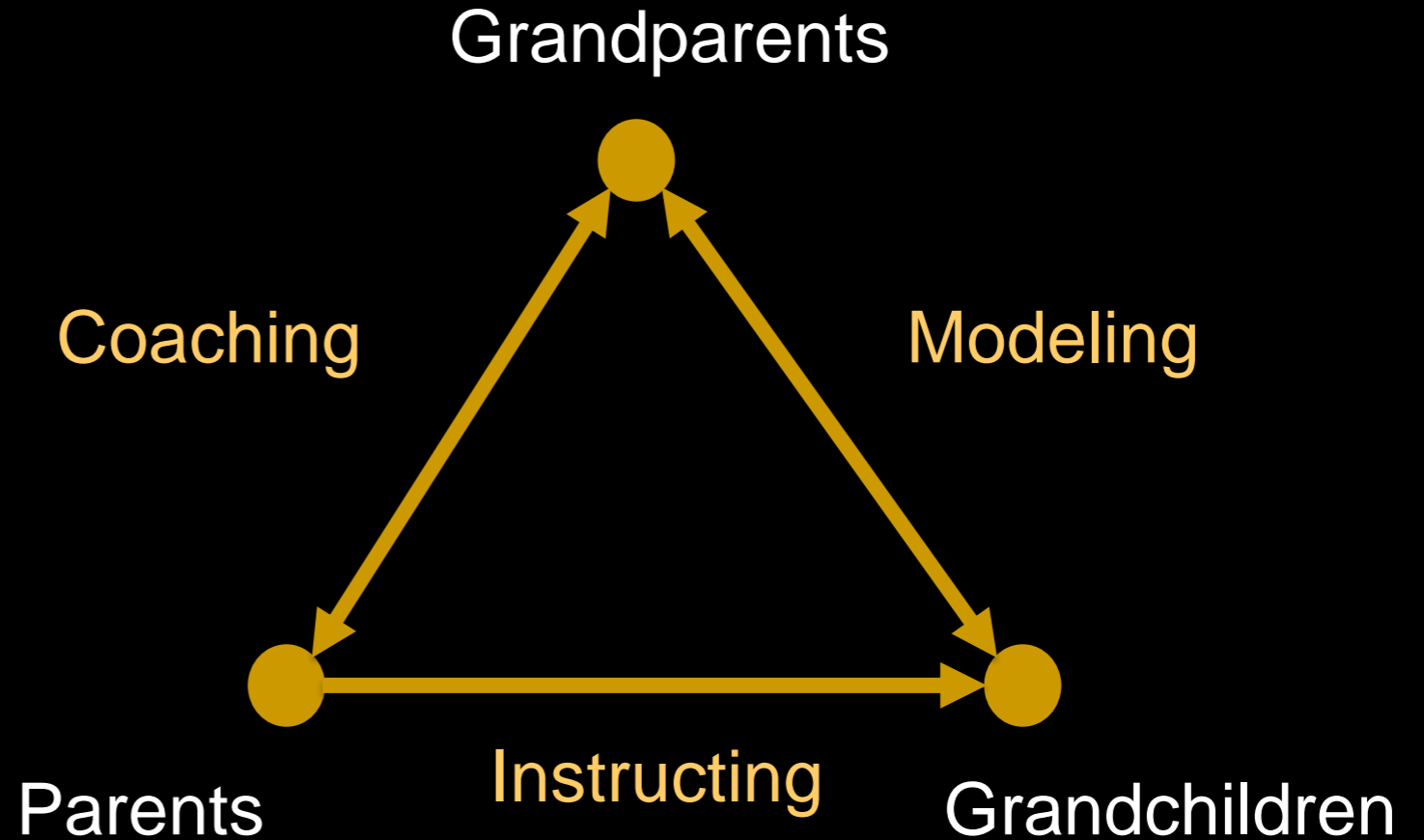
- Applying the Gospel in Building Growing Relationships
  - Supporting your Children by Teaching Your Grandchildren to Love and Respect Their Parents
  - Supporting your Grandchildren’s Parents Through Words of Encouragement
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# The Family

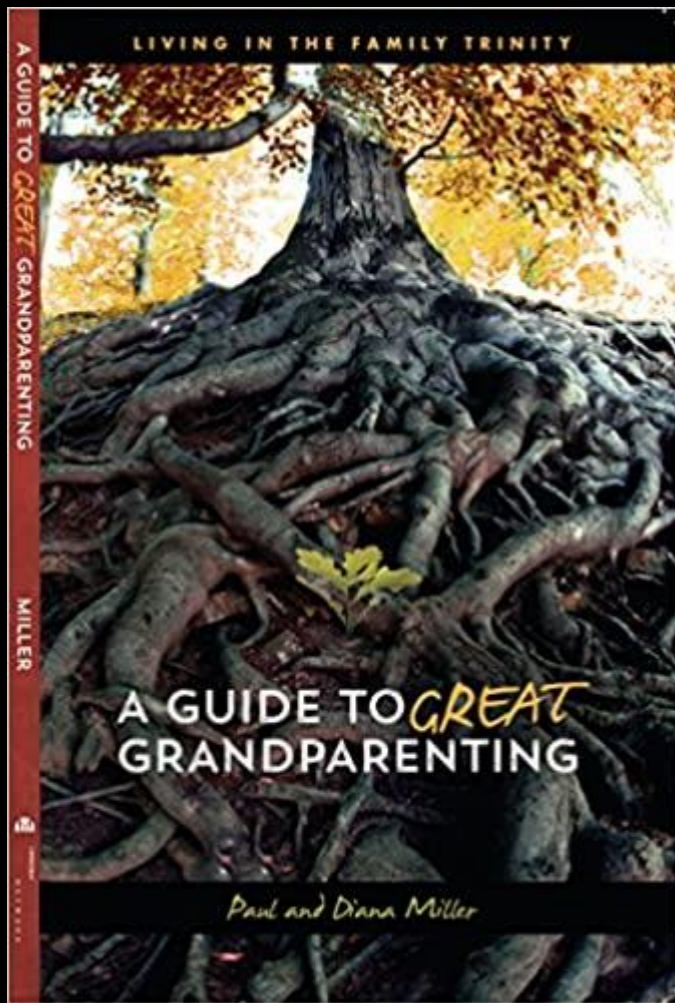
## Trinity

A three generation unit built around three different but complementary relationships.



# A Guide to Great Grandparenting

By Paul and Diana Miller

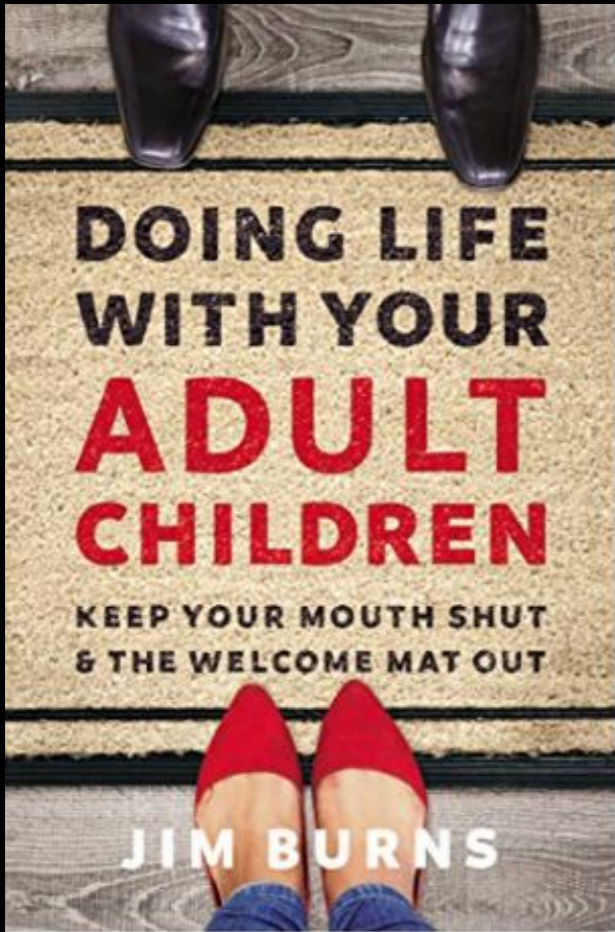


*The first role of grandparents is supporting the parents of the grandchildren in raising them to love God and follow Christ*

- They may be our children, but they are not children anymore
- Communication, communication, communication
- Your help is welcome, your interference is not

*Your first essential task is to be the coach for the parents*

# Parental Engagement



- Dr. Jim Burns
- How to Parent Adult Children
  - [\(359\) How to Parent Adult Children with Dr. Jim Burns & Host Krista Gilbert - YouTube](#)
  - 2:30 – 20:40
  - Raising responsible adults
- Also:
  - [\(108\) Doing Life with Your Adult Children: Keep Your Mouth Shut and the Welcome Mat Out -- WEBINAR - YouTube](#)

# Parental Engagement



Dr. Jim Burns

Goal: Responsible adulthood

- You're Fired!
  - Unsolicited advice is usually taken as criticism...
  - Experience is a better teacher than advice...
  - Be students of the culture...
  - We can't enable our kids, but help them...
  - You can't want it more than they want it...
  - You can't be a one topic parent...
  - **Do you still love me?**
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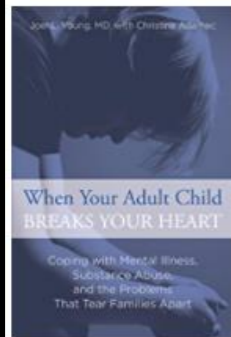
## Level of Celebration

- I celebrate my son/daughter to the world
- I celebrate my son/daughter to them
- I don't celebrate my son/daughter outwardly
- My son/daughter don't think I celebrate them at all

What is your goal for celebration in the next 90 days?



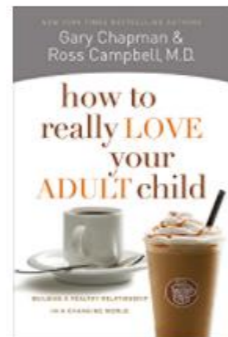
# Resources



When Your Adult Child Breaks Your Heart:...

Joel Young

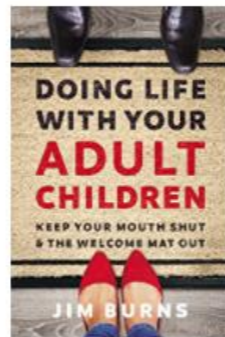
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How to Really Love Your Adult Child: Building a...

> Ross Campbell

★★★★★ 211



Doing Life with Your Adult Children: Keep...

> Jim Burns

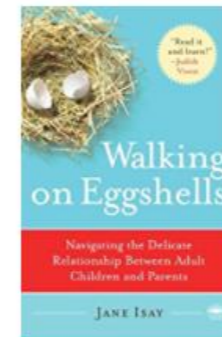
★★★★★ 964



Unhealthy Helping: A Psychological Guide to...

Shawn Burn

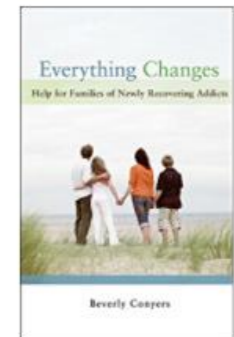
★★★★★ 51



Walking on Eggshells: Navigating the...

> Jane Isay

★★★★★ 468



Everything Changes: Help for Families of...

> Beverly Conyers

★★★★★ 210



## Discussion Questions:

- How would you describe your current relationship with your grandkids' parents?
- Is your tendency as a grandparent to be “too involved” or “not involved enough” in your grandchildren’s lives? Why?
- How might you work more closely with your adult children in being involved in the spiritual development of your grandchildren?
- What work might you have to do in examining your own history with your adult children?
- Is there sin you need to confess and repent of? What steps might you need to take to restore relationships with your children?



## Action Steps

- Add to your calendar the birthdays and anniversaries of your adult kids and kids-in-law. What other special dates might you want to include as reminders to send a card, a personal note, or phone call in order to express your love and appreciation?
- Plan a time when you can sit face-to-face with your grandchildren's parents in order to discuss with them how you can be more supportive of them as parents moving forward.
- Make a sincere effort to reach out to your grandkids' other set(s) of grandparents in order to get to know them better.



## Question

- My grandparents...
    - Remained passive or unengaged
    - Supported parental rights
    - Usurped parental rights
    - Had it about right
  - My parent's responded by...
    - Limiting contact
    - Conflict
    - Going along with things
    - Had it about right
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# Grandchildren Engagement

“Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.”

Colossians 3:20

- Supporting Your Children by Teaching Your Grandchildren to Respect their parents
    - Respecting rules?
    - Praising behavior
    - Listening, affirming and appropriately following up
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